

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - August 15, 2007

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Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

Those present were: Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township; Mike Stoner, Bay Metro Transit; Vaughn Begick, Bay County Commissioner; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township Supervisor; Susan Richardson, MDOT Planning; Jim Bedell, Bay City Planning; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Jay Riethel, MDOT, and; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff.

Approval of Minutes:

There were some minor changes/corrections required in the June 20, 2007 minutes. On page 1 under ***Public Hearing on BCATS 2035 MTP Approval***, line 4 should read "will not affect". On page 2 under ***BCATS 2008 UWP Approval***, the end of line 3 should read "to". It was moved by Gaydos, supported by Richardson, and carried to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2007 meeting with corrections. Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Update From Bay Metro Transit:

Stoner gave an update and informed members that there will be a Public Transit Workers of Michigan training conference held at the Bay City DoubleTree Hotel September 13-14, 2007. Bay Metro is also involved in the Michigan Communities for a Lifetime project being headed up by MSU Extension Office. Stoner indicated that once committees were being developed for this program, it was likely that BCATS members would be asked to get involved. This program will enhance connectivity in our community and the goal is to get certified.

BCATS 2035 Long Range Plan Approved:

Engelhardt received notice from Jim Cramer of MDOT that the BCATS 2035 Long Range Plan has been approved.

BCATS Soft Match:

Engelhardt discussed BCATS soft match funds. There will be further discussion next Tuesday at the monthly MTPA Meeting, so it is anticipated that Engelhardt will have more information on this subject to share after the meeting. There is an emphasis on better documentation in the UWP to disclose any and all financial impacts. Engelhardt indicated that there may be other match activities we can use to meet our soft match beyond traffic counts. Richardson told everyone to make sure they were adding all the activities together.

Letter of Support - Christa McAuliffe Middle School for SR2S:

Engelhardt provided members with a handout of his letter of support for the Christa McAuliffe Middle school for the Safe Route to School program.

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Letter of Support - Henry Street Sidewalks:

Engelhardt provided members with a handout of his letter of support for the Henry Street sidewalks to be a participating items.

Letter of Support - University Center Trail Enhancement Application:

Engelhardt discussed that BCATS will be supplying a letter of support for the MDOT sponsored Enhancement Grant to connect Delta College with SVSU when the appropriate time comes for the enhancement application.

Road Commission Safety Grant Award:

The Road Commission has been awarded a Safety Grant for the Seven Mile Rd over Bradford Creek Project. BCATS will need to amend the TIP to include this project so it's in the next FY funding cycle.

Michigan Communities for a Lifetime:

The Bay County Michigan State University Extension has made application to the Michigan Communities for a Lifetime program to get our community classified as a senior friendly town. The theory being that if a community is senior friendly, it will be accessible for everyone. Transportation is a component for this program so it will be important to look at what is available and what will be needed. BCATS should identify transportation gaps.

Asset Management Paser Ratings:

Rick Lilly was here in the spring and spoke about Asset Management Paser Ratings for local roads. BCATS cannot use asset management funding for the assessment of local roads because we didn't have prior authorization. Without a formal agreement we can't get reimbursement for local road ratings.

BCATS Non-Motorized Plan:

Engelhardt discussed the State's plan to pursue a region-wide Non-Motorized Plan for Michigan. Therefore, it would be beneficial for BCATS to update their Non-Motorized Plan using the State's format. We need to get comments from the Townships to determine what they view as non-motorized needs in their communities. The main goal is to create total connectivity and a system that can be used by everyone. This effort will tie into the Michigan Communities for a Lifetime program.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant Opportunity:

Engelhardt heard about a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative Grant opportunity. This is not an educational grant. The grant seems more focused on mechanical retro-fit for older vehicles.

Project Updates:

The **Wenonah Street Project** has been completed. The **Woodside Project** from *Washington to Trumbull* for mill and resurface with some sewer repair should be

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completed November 15, 2007. The ***North Henry Street Project*** is in the process of being approved by MDOT and it is anticipated that there will be a September 28, 2007 let. The project will begin in the spring of 2008 and should take all summer to complete as there will be replacement of water and sewer mains.

Other/New Business:

Local Jobs Today:

Richardson discussed that there are some leftover funds within the Local Jobs Today program. Applications are due by January 31, 2008 and the projects must be ready for an April 4, 2008 letting. The funds are available for 2009-10-11 projects that are currently listed in the TIP.

As there was no further business, the August 15, 2007 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul